BERNAL JOURNAL

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SERVING BERNAL HEIGHTS AND SAN FRANCISCO

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BHCF Buys First House

by Buck Bagot

The Bernal Heights Community Foundation (BHCF) has arranged to acquire its first lot and house on the Hill. Located at 18 Bonview Street, the acquisitions will result in reasonably priced, attractive homes for Bernal Heights residents. A new home will be designed and constructed on the lot by the BHCF. The house will be rehabilitated with low-interest State loan money. Both will be made available to low and moderate income Bernal Heights residents at lower than market level mortgage rates.

The BHCF, and its community development program, were mandated in the *Elsie St. Plan,* passed by the neighborhood and the SF City Planning Commission in Spring, 1978. The BHCF applied for Community Development Block Grant funding, and was included in the 1979 budget. It received $150,000 for acquisition. Although the funds will not become available until June, when the deal will be closed, an agreement has been reached with the Mission Housing Development Corp. for funds for a binder and a down payment.

Bernal Heights has 250-350 open, buildable lots. A number of the block clubs, and the BHCF, feel that it is imperative that a large number of these lots be developed with housing most residents can afford. If left to the speculators, the influence of large numbers of box-like, expensive houses will be felt by renters and home-owners alike. In the next few months, the BHCF, in cooperation with the Northwest Bernal Block Club, will be contacting lot owners in the area bounded by Coso, Cortland, Bonview, and Mission. It will seek to purchase lots, and any existing housing up for sale.

The BHCF is a non-profit community development corp. Any housing will be made available to Bernal residents who qualify through a lottery. It will be some time before housing will be ready for occupancy by its eventual owners.

In the next few months, the BHCF will be attempting to develop a Hill-wide program for the development and preservation of architecturally compatible, low and moderate income,

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Bulldog Bared

The Truth About Buster

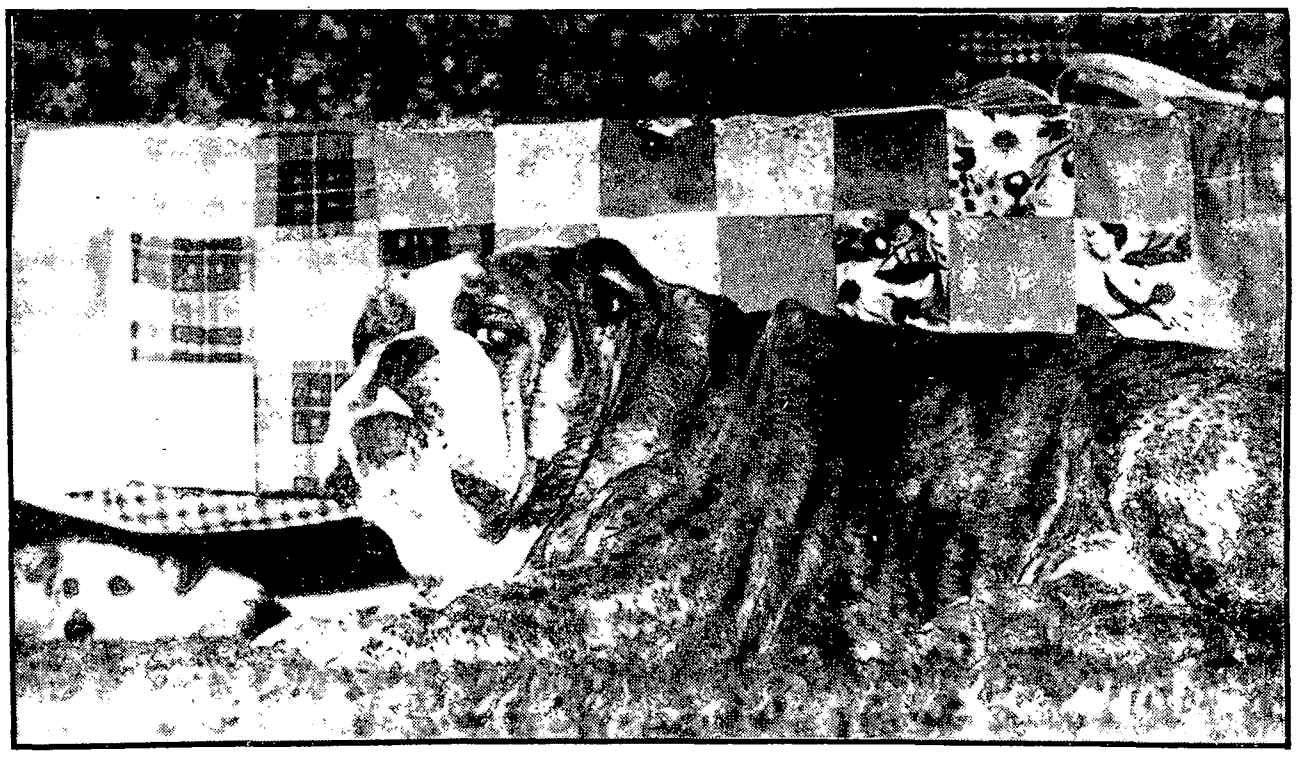

photo Mike Powers

BERNAL BULLDOG LEADS THE GOOD LIFE.

by Joanne Molloy

If ugliness had four legs and a tail, it would be a bulldog. Or so the untrained observer might say. To others—the self-proclaimed "bulldog persons"—a bulldog is the perfect result of centuries of cross-breeding. Devoted owners ride a circuit of bulldog shows in the state to show off their mug-faced pedigrees. And when their champion finally gets that blue ribbon, its pups are worth $650 a piece.

Bulldogs were first bred in England for the sport of "bullbaiting," a form of meat tenderizing while the bull was still alive. When public pressure made bullbaiting illegal in 1835, the British leisure class turned the bulldogs on one another for sport in pits made for the purpose. By selective breeding of Mastiffs and terriers, owners actually designed a dog with the pit-fight in mind. Their champion bulldog had loose flaps of skin from chin to chest, with a receding head and snout. If attacked here, the dog's throat would be protected, enabling it to breathe. The bulldog's hefty torso is packed with strength, enabling it to leap eight feet into the air and knock down a large adult.

Jeanne Hamer's bulldog "Buster" is just such a champion. His lineage papers, going back five generations on both sides, give him deeper roots than most Americans. Buster does not engage in pit-fighting: the toughest he gets is chasing a speeding VW up Elsie Street. No, Buster's blue ribbons are for looks alone. When Buster parades around the show ring, specialized bulldog judges know he's got what it takes: the swaggering walk, curlie-cue tail, and jowls that would put Howard Jarvis to shame.

A bulldog show is not unlike the Miss America pageant in its emphasis on beauty over talent. Buster and his canine companions are not required to do any tricks: they can't. As expert Enno Meyer says in his book, *The Bulldog,* by breeding the bulldog for its somewhat squashed head, 19th century breeders made their brains, "smaller than in any other race (of dog) . . . making it inferior to all others in everything related to intelligence."

Buster's physique also puts him at a disadvantage at the other end—he can't reach his own tail to scratch it. Any human assistance given to him in this area is greatly appreciated. With his huge shoulders and tiny hind legs, Buster can't perform his service as a stud without the help of a contraption called a Breeder's Box. Even by using this device, which holds the female and gives Buster support, most times, it's said, "The floor gets more pregnant than the bulldog."

If the $150 stud fee and $650 price per puppy looks tempting, consider Buster's grooming regimen. Either Jeanne or her daughter Charlene Martinez must trim his 750 whiskers with surgical scissors, clean inside the folds of

(Continued on Page 9)

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BERNAL JOURNAL

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SERVING
BERNAL HEIGHTS AND SAN FRANCISCO

The **Bernal Journal** is an open forum of the community sponsored by the Bernal Fund. It is dedicated to providing the people of Bernal Heights with neighborhood news, ideas, issues, and events. Articles with by-lines express the views of the individual writer.

The next meeting of the **Bernal Journal** is Wednesday, May 9, at 8 pm at 62 Winfield Street. Anybody with an idea or interest is invited. **Deadline for ads, classifieds, announcements, cartoons, pictures and articles is MAY 18.**

EDITORS: Steve Chapple and Ann Kyle
STAFF REPORTER: Joanne Molloy
COMMUNITY REPORTER: R. J. Dutra
TREASURER: Jerry Schwartz
ADVERTISING: Joy Ricciardi, Lil Kruse
CONTRIBUTORS: Buck Bagot, Selly Diamant, Florence Monzasch, Allen Nomura, Cecil Pobre, Penny Potlasch, Mike Powers, Linda Walsh, Rich Yurman

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For information regarding advertising call Ad Manager Joy Ricciardi at 826-2371 or 546-2682. Classifieds 50 cents per line, minimum three lines.

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GAU

editor's notes:

This is a highly alliterative issue for us: bulldogs, bulletins, bulldozers, and the usual bullheaded writers, readers, and editors, all without any real bull, thank you.

As usual we've come up with a strange assortment of stories and jokes, pictures and ads. We can use more, any pics, ideas, sale items, stories, and letters you think can stand cold type and the hot *Bernal* sun. Our offer of free icewater on layout nights has been magnanimously extended. Feel free to drop by and lend a hand.

We get the feeling people off the hill are reading the *JOURNAL*. In February the *Chronicle* ran Mike Power's picture of Mayor Feinstein scooting down the new Esmeralda slide. That was the cover photo last issue you may remember. They paid Mike for the shot. A week or so later the *Examiner* wasn't so fastidious. After reading the *Journal*, they sent a reporter out to the hill and pilfered Joanne Molloy's story about the Precita Avenue Beatles' House, which was also front page copy last issue. Bernal Joke of the Bi-Month (admittedly a popular one) turned up in Herb Caen. So we ask you: Why read the *Examiner* and the *Chronicle* when you can read it first in the *Bernal Journal*?

Last issue also saw the most active controversy this side of the Three Mile Island nuclear fiasco. A lot of people resented the full back page ad for Michael Sargent Real Estate Broker. At the last *Journal* story meeting we decided to move the ad to an inside page, pending a resolution, but when Mr. Sargent refused to advertise at all unless he could have the back page spot, we left it in. We didn't want to drop it without first letting everybody join in on the argument and see what the ad looked like.

Basically, the arguments for keeping the ad are that nobody (except porno movie ads) should be refused if they pay and maybe some good people who live on the hill approve of Sargent Realty. The argument against, which

GROWLS FROM THE BERNAL BEAR

is stated in the letters below, is that real estate speculation is driving up rents and taxes and forcing good longtime neighbors off the hill (even out of San Francisco) and should certainly not be supported in the Bernal community paper. Ad revenue enters in a little bit, but not that much since we can just put out a smaller paper or not typeset it as we now do. The editors pretty much agree that Mr. Sargent's ad is not appropriate for the B.J. but we want to know what you think. Take a look at the ad in this issue and the last one and let us know. There's nothing we like better than letters!

In the next issue we will carry an article that will seek to define what speculation is—it's a lot more than just getting the best price for your home or a fair return on the renovations you may have done.

Parting shot: thinking last issue's Valentine design was an anonymous graphic, we rapaciously stole it from our sister paper, the *Potrero View*. In fact it was drawn by ace *VIEW* artist Sheila Duffy.

LETTERS

Dear Editors:

I and my family have very much enjoyed the new additions and last few issues of the B. J. I do have a few comments and suggestions.

No. 1. Joanne Molloy is tops! Everywhere you read you see her name. The articles are always informative and humane. It's clear to me, Joanne is a "little" bundle of dynamite. It is also clear she has worked hard and long hours to get better out of our already best hill. Congratulations, Joanne. Keep up the "ace" reporting.

No. 2. It would be nice to see job posting for some of our younger adults going to college. With all the tearing down and putting back up. It might serve for pocket money when things get tight late in a month. Not all work involving construction has to be union. There are alot of young men (as of yet I don't know about the women) who are willing to work, who live on the Northwest side of the hill.

No. 3. As an avid and livid supporter of anti-speculation, I was furious, to say the least, about Michael Sargent's full page ad. Do we need money that bad for that large an ad? (Not very democratic of me is it?) But then I don't feel Michael Sargent is a very democratic person. Perhaps there should be a note above his ad stating—"This is a paid speculative ad and in no way reflects the opinion of the *Bernal Journal.*" Perhaps another way he could use his money is by donating to the Carrol House (tax deductible!). His publicity would be on its way up to good deeds. One needs no other publicity than good deeds. Better yet, suggest to him you will run the ad and he can make out a check to the Carrol House. In my way of thinking he's getting away scot free, probably laughing, because he knows the majority of the people on this hill do not support speculation. His conscience should clearly be taxed.

Again, I truly enjoy the "new" B.J. and wish you all constant success.

Linda Canaga

P.S.: So does Lillian Duncan.

Dear Editors:

I sure admire the last double B.J. and hope you can make it last. Don't know how you do it ($) but it's beautiful and pleasantly easy to read this way in real type. A long time ago I used to help on this paper, so I have some notion of how much hard work you're doing. Thanks very much and good luck.

Bev Anderson

Dear Editors:

When we first glimpsed the back page of your February/ March issue, we thought for sure it was an article on the horrors of housing speculation. We then verified that it was not the "Journal Joke of the Month."

How *dare* you—a "community newspaper"—run ads for Michael D. Sargent, one of the most notorious speculators in Bernal Heights?! That's like *Ebony* magazine running ads for the KKK!

We understand that this ad was very helpful financially, but we must draw the line *somewhere!* Give us a smaller issue with ads from merchants who *serve* the people of Bernal Heights—*not* run them out of their neighborhoods!

Barbara Bagot
(Bonview St.)
Jessie Bowen
(Coleridge St.)

(Continued next page)

More Letters!

Dear Editors,

We were somewhat surprised at Phil Johnson's article in the February—March issue. Mr. Johnson's views of why Proposition U lost make very little sense, especially in the light of the $500,000 advertising campaign that the real estate interests waged to distort the truth. Mr. Johnson gives three reasons why Prop. U lost. First, that it only addressed a small part of the problem, not the underlying causes for high rents. That's true, of course, but Prop. U was never designed to solve the overall problem. It was simply a one year measure intended to pass on property tax savings from Prop. 13 to the renters who pay those taxes, a fact that was never addressed in the landlords media blitz.

Next Mr. Johnson claims that many buildings didn't receive property tax savings. While it is true that many "speculated" properties didn't get much back because of inflated values, the vast majority of residential property did get tax relief, an average savings of over 50% according to the City's budget analyst in an August 1978 report to the board of supervisors. Last, Mr. Johnson says Prop U lost because it ignored the impact of the sewer tax, which is also being passed on to renters. Again, Prop. U was a *property tax* relief measure, aimed at putting property tax relief dollars into the pockets of renters where they belong. It had nothing to do with the sewer tax.

There was nothing "unfair" about Proposition U. It would have simply passed on to renters the same tax relief that homeowners got from Prop. 13. Mr. Johnson says that landlords are doing this on a voluntary basis, but that just isn't so, as any renter can tell you.

Finally, Mr. Johnson asks to go begging to the state government for rent relief. You'll all remember how much Jerry Brown and the state legislature have done for renters the next time the landlord raises the rent. Strong local organizing, not appeals to Sacramento, is the key to renter relief.

Mr. johnson's article itself is a perfect example of how confused a person/ voter can get when hit with half a million dollars in lies and distortions.

Sincerely,
John Kwasnic
District 9 Coordinator
Renters' Alliance

Dear Editors:

Just a note to say that the new, improved Bernal Journal is wonderful! It's just full of treasures—the Beatles house, plus Ralph Havalick and the things on agency activities. It gave me news about a lot of things I've wondered about, and is easily the best, most interesting, and readable neighborhood newspaper I've seen.

Bernal Heights is lucky to have you! and I hope you keep doing it.

love,
Melinda Marble

photo Pat Quinlan

Jane Fonda: "Life of the movie."

China Syndrome

by Eric Craven

I often attend movies about some "cause" with fear and dread. I may agree with the message, but the acting, plot, music, cutting and everything else make me so embarrassed, it reminds me of my grade-school plays. I wish I could quietly slide under my seat.

Not so the *China Syndrome.*

Good story. Well-acted. A must-see. Especially in light of the recent Three Mile Island nuclear disaster, the worst in U.S. history.

Actually, *China Syndrome* is not about an accident occurring, but about a near-accident. Everything turns out all right. In a way, that's what lends it credibility. If it had been about a full blown nuclear disaster, it would have been almost too predictable. Having Jane Fonda in it—*who has been cast by the media as an unacceptable radical*—I would expect it to portray the worst situation.

But it's not the worst, it's not Three Mile Island. The story pulled me in and carried me along toward disaster, but at the last moment it pulled me back.

Jack Lemmon does a very good job—not the somewhat confused, curled-lip fall guy of some second rate comedy. No, he's a nuclear *engineer who grows as the problems he finds* force him on to the next step.

Mike Douglas is firey and difficult. He constantly pushes from step to step.

And Jane Fonda, starting as a somewhat befuddled, plastic newscaster, gets more and more involved in the news itself. She is the life of the movie.

So, without telling the entire story, what more can I say . . . except, try to see it.

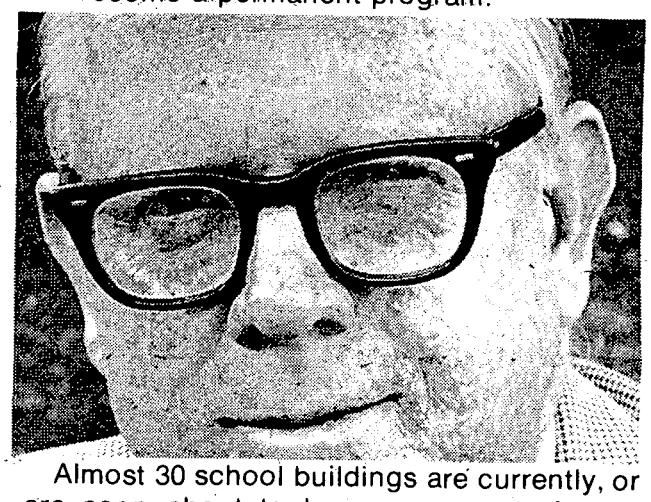
SUPE DU JOUR
Lee Dolson Interviewed

The Journal: Do you think City Workers should receive full collective bargaining rights?

From 1969 to 1972, I chaired the Teachers' Collective Bargaining negotiations team for San Francisco. I was convinced then, and still remain convinced, that full collective bargaining rights can provide a significantly better means for handling all public employee governmental relations.

The Journal: What do you think of using Community Development Block Grant funds for low and moderate income housing? And do you think that the large number of empty school buildings might be used for low and moderate income housing?

I have strongly supported the use of Community Development Block Grant funding for low and moderate income housing. For example, my support of the Community Development Block Grant Proposal which was submitted by the Northwest Bernal Block Club/ Bernal Heights Community Foundation resulted in a first-time grant of $150,000, which I expect will become a permanent program.



Almost 30 school buildings are currently, or are soon about to become, vacant. A very suitable use may be found for these properties if they could be converted, either by public or private means, into low or moderate income housing. While not being certain that school interiors are suitable for easy and adequate conversion into apartments, I see a positive gain in converting the vacant school sites themselves into much needed housing; even if that means total reconstruction from the ground up.

(Editors' Note: If you have any good questions you want answered by District 9 Supervisor Lee Dolson, think quick and let us know. Deadline is May 13.)

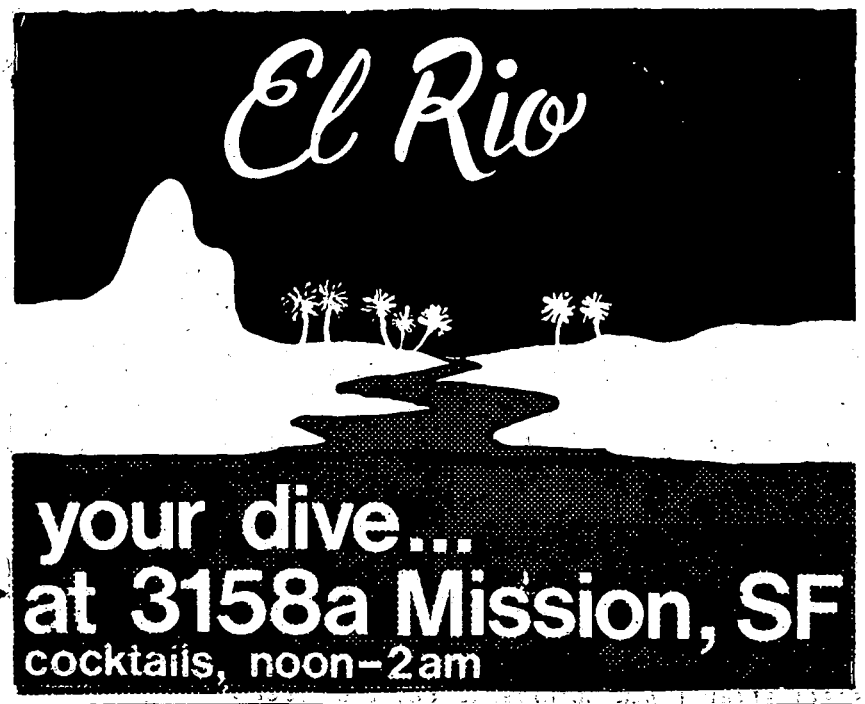
JOKES OF THE BI-MONTH

Show me a man with his two feet planted firmly on the ground and . . .

I'll show you a man who can't get his pants off.

How many New Yorkers does it take to change a light bulb?

Six! One to screw it in and 5 to criticize.



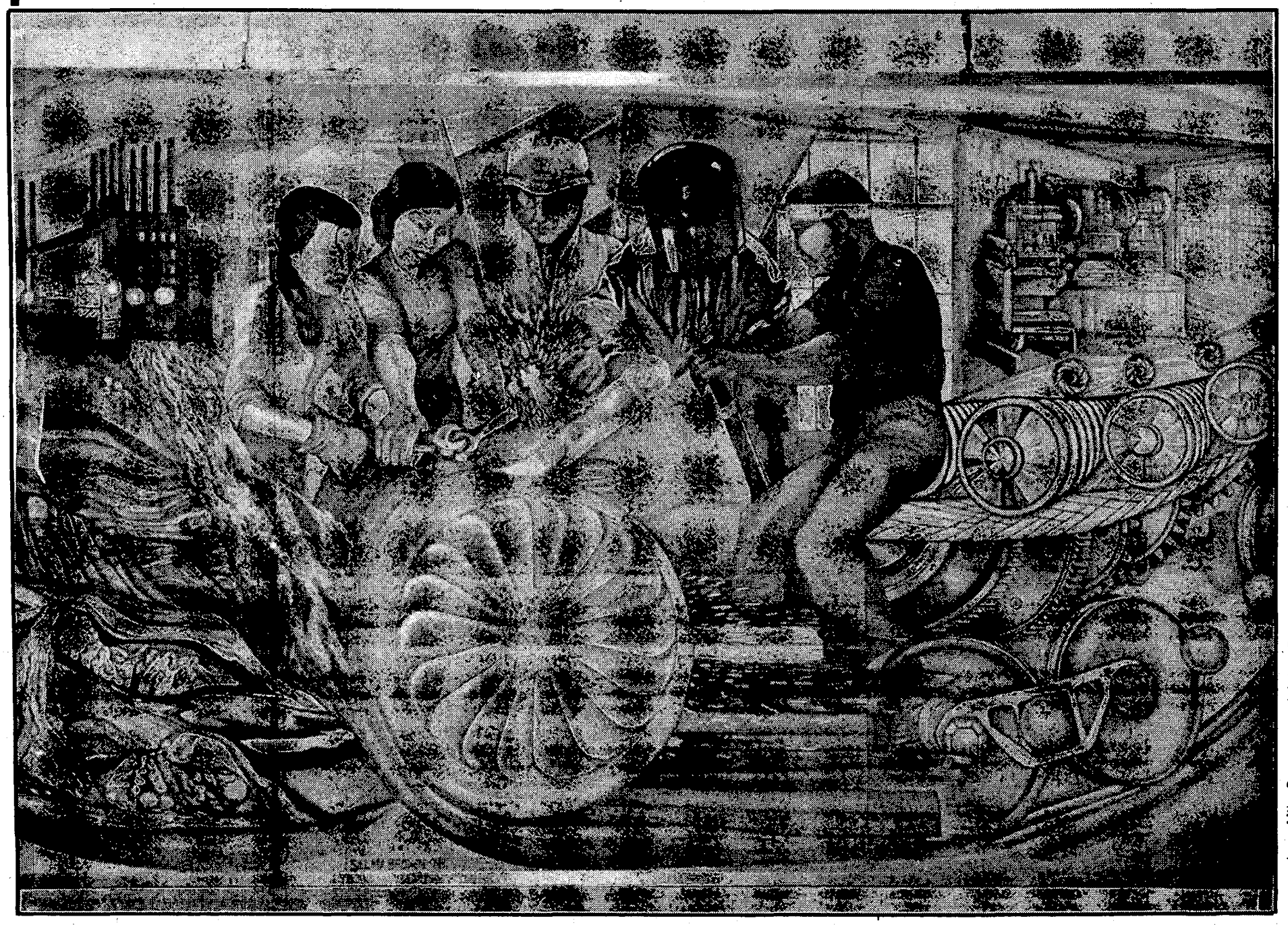


photo Mike Powers, mural Selma Brown

A MURAL AT DIAMONT TOOL & DIE SHOWS HOW STEEL IS MADE.

The tool and die man with a vision

by Michael Kazin

As soon as you walk into Selly Diamant's tool and die company in the warehouse district along Army Street, something seems unusual. The floors and machinery are immaculate; the lighting doesn't strain the eye. On the back wall sits a mural depicting the process of making steel in the deep, earthen colors of ore-laden mountains and hulking mills. Strangest of all, the three young machinists appear to be fascinated by their work. They come to Diamant with questions and suggestions about this measurement, or that precision cut and then go back to the job with a passion that is absent from the majority of industrial jobs, which are repetitive and require little skill.

The workers at Diamant's shop are apprentices engaged in a unique program which pays them a good wage while they learn. Their teacher is also their boss. Diamant, a Danish-born machinist, believes fervently in the traditional method of training apprentices in the skilled trades. "The only way to teach a guy a trade is by putting him to work," he says.

Diamant describes the woeful situation for would-be apprentices. "The unions don't want to increase the number of journeymen apprentices. "The unions don't want to increase the number of journeymen in the trades and the big companies depend on the schools." When he attempted to get CETA money from the federal government last year, Diamant got caught in a blizzard of red tape. "There are so many laws protecting them (apprentices) that no-one will hire them."

So the energetic craftsman is doing the task himself. Each year since he opened the business in 1975, Diamant has hired one young apprentice. Working with a professor at the O'Connell Technical School in the Mission, the trainees get a full combination of classroom theory and work experience. After three years in the shop, they are ready for a career in the skill of constructing complex molds and machine tools for manufacturing plants. According to Diamant, good tool-and-die makers have become a rare breed in American industry.

Selly Diamant is different from most bosses in one other way: he doesn't want his business to get any bigger. "We get most of our orders from the factories around here; it's kind of a neighborhood concern." The mural—done last December by a friend named Selma Brown—is a symbol of Diamant's vision. In the center of it, five workers of different races bend to their tasks with strength and confidence.

Selly Diamont

school daze

by R. J. Dutra

Paul Revere School, painted a bicentennial red-white-&-blue, sits atop the bluff above the Farmers' Market. Truly a neighborhood school, 85% of its 625 children walk to school.

A State Program Quality Review Team visited Paul Revere last month to judge the effectiveness of its general education program, its five bilingual classes, its "compensatory" programs, how it uses limited resources to meet the childrens' needs, and its parent volunteer involvement.

The State Team heard praise for the school from its parent volunteers, led by Parent Liason Grace Williams, but concerns were expressed over Proposition 13 cutbacks and busing's impact.

"This hill is already thoroughly mixed," said one; "It's a waste of money," another said about busing. The State Team said busing is aDistrict affair, but admitted the Federal Government want to know if State cutbacks are a detriment to the educational program.

13 has had an effect, admits Teacher Diane Doe. There have been cuts in staff and supplies, and uncertainty over future cutbacks "is somewhat demoralizing."

Principal Grace Navitska is always seeking alternative sources to make up for cutbacks. School counselors were cut, but the Bay View Mental Health Assoc. has helped fill the gap with social counseling for children. The Principal plans to continue guaranteeing "quality education", and hopes for community support and suggestions. Her number is 282-2892.

... new neighborhood lawyers ...

by Ann Nolan

Walking down Cortland Ave. between the Library and St. Kevin's Church is another Bernal Heights institution, the law office of Waller, McCaffrey and Kurtz. Wait a minute! That's not W, M & K bending over those voluminous stacks of papers, scratching dense legal notes into narrow margins. No, three bright new faces look up as this BERNAL JOURNAL reporter opens the door. Bill Corman, Gail Donaldson and Rich Ingram are starting up a collective law practice out of the 626 Cortland Ave. office.

Turns out, when Brian McCaffrey recently accepted a two year teaching position in the Peoples Republic of China (the fulfillment of a long-time dream), Marilyn Waller and Judy Kurtz decided to move on to other things. Judy is now with Equal Rights Advocates, a women's group working on sex discrimination cases; and Marilyn has gone to the Community Law Office.

The BERNAL JOURNAL interviewed Corman, Donaldson and Ingram on their work here in Bernal Heights and their personal views of the law and community.

photo Allen Nomura

INGRAM DONALDSON, AND CORMAN,

BJ: What does it mean to be a community lawyer?

C,D&I: Well, we all went to law school with the idea of working in the community, with the purpose of forming a legal collective and practicing in a low to moderate income neighborhood in San Francisco.

We have found that the legal system is set up to serve people with money. California has the highest percentage of lawyers to population in this country, yet the great majority of them serve large financial and business concerns, not working people. We want to see more of the "professions" serve the working classes. We see ourselves as general practitioners, not specialists.

BJ: If someone wants to discuss a legal problem with you, find out if they have a case, need a lawyer, etc. is there a charge for a first interview?

C,D&I: No. We encourage people to come in and ask us questions. We are open Monday-Friday, 9-5 for that very reason. We'd like to deal with the day-to-day problems of the community as well as dispelling some of the myths and mysteries of law.

Bj; How long do you plan on being here?

C,D&I: We have a long term commitment to each other and to Bernal Neights. We plan on working on community projects like the Community Center and the Bernal Heights Community Foundation, or whatever, as members of the community, as people who live and work here, not just as lawyers who practice here. That's the difference between a collective practice and a traditional legal partnership; our collectivity will be clearer to see when in the future we have legal workers with us here. They will share equally in the decision making and money.

Bj; Anything else you'd like the community to know about you?

C,D&I: Yes. Too often the law picks up where people have messed up. One of the reasons we chose Bernal Heights is that people here are taking things into their own hands—we can provide legal back-up to people taking care of their own lives—a good use of the law.

Also we are dedicated to social change. But social change comes through more direct political process than the legal system. As lawyers we want to defend and protect people from the oppressiveness of the legal system.

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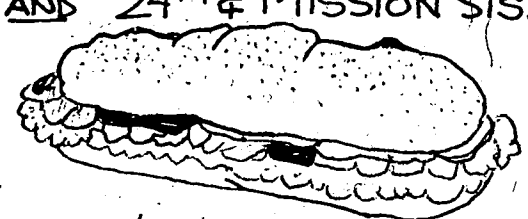

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Community News

Northwest News

by Penny Polatsch

The Northwest Bernal Block Club (NWBBC) now meets the first Monday of every month at 185 Elsie Street, 7:30 PM. We have changed our every other week meeting format so that the block club committees can meet during the month and bring their suggestions to the monthly general meeting for discussion and vote.

In the last month, the NWBBC began a dues paying membership drive. We have over 100 members to date. Dues are used for the monthly newsletter, postage, xeroxing, legal and filing fees, etc. Individuals can join for $6 per quarter, households, $15 per quarter. You can join semi-annually or annually. Send your check to 150 Elsie Street and support the work of the block club.

Also during this past month, we canvassed the Mission to Bonview to Coso to Virginia area telling neighbors what the block club was doing: developing low and moderate income housing for Bernal Heights residents, building parks and maintaining open space on the hill, developing a recycling center, keeping speculator Richard Alvarez from building an unsafe street and expensive, architecturally incompatible houses on Elsie Street, and so on. The showed what our neighbors would like to see happen on their streets and on the hill. As a result we have formed two new working committees: a Safety and Security, and a block club Party Committee. The NWBBC has also begun working with a hill-wide committee to establish a Bernal Heights Community Center.

Additional areas of concern and interest from the canvassing were parking, safety bumps on certain streets, and when the next block club party will be$ Call the office, 826-3959, with your neighborhood suggestions.

Since the *Bernal Journal* comes out every two months, the NWBBC Newsletter will attempt to keep the news coming on a monthly basis. It will be distributed from Coso to Cortland. If you are not getting a copy and would like one, call 826-3959.

Join the NWBBC. Come to the next meeting. Meet your neighbors.

DESIGN A POSTER CONTEST
for the
BERNAL RECYCLING CENTER

In honor of the "soon-to-open" Bernal Recycling Center at Farmer's Market, the BERNAL JOURNAL is sponsoring a contest for the most original poster designs illustrating the "Good Sense" of recycling old newspapers, buttles, tin cans and aluminum. Everyone is eligible. You need only to live on Bernal Heights to enter. Two Designs will be chosen. Winners will receive a six-pack of the soda of their choice (in return-for-deposit bottles only) and see their posters published in the June BERNAL JOURNAL. All posters submitted will be used to promote and advertise the Bernal Recycling Center when it opens. Hurry! Hurry! Hurry! Terrific opportunity, eh? Send all entries to Bernal Journal, 196 Bocana Street, S.F., Ca. 94110. Contest closes May 15, 1979. Call 824-2398 for more information.

Community Center Try for '79

by Ann Nolan

Once again the toreador of City Bureaucracy waves its hot pink cape at the residents of Bernal Heights.

Once again we stomp our feet, eyeball the prize of a new Community Center for Bernal Heights and get ready to charge ....

... down to the Mayor's Office of Community Development with a new proposal by June 1979.

We certainly are bull-headed aren't we?. Yes! And experienced from past efforts, and determined to horn in on the action and stick with it 'til we open up the doors of our own Community Center on Bernal Heights.

Anyone wishing to throw their hat in the arena, or find out the odds or other information may call in the afternoons ... Ann Nolan, 824-2398 or Pat Helton, 647-3665. Ole!

Bernal's New Law

by R. J. Dutra

Supervisor Lee S. Dolson, responding to neighborhood requests, has introduced new legislation to plug loopholes in San Francisco's building and street specifications codes.

Problems on several of Bernal's streets have dramatized the need to plug these loopholes: Elsie St. is up to City standards of acceptance, but too narrow for fire equipment; on Mullen and Joy, permits have been issued to build homes on driveways; on Banks permits were issued—then withdrawn—on an inaccessible cliff; and on Powhattan, construction has turned that "street" into a muddy quagmire.

How can this happen? The City's building code only says construction must face or border upon public land; there is no mention of pavement, curbs, etc.

This creates problems on Bernal, which contains a quarter of the vacant lots left in the County along with an equal amount of its "paper streets"—vacant right-of-ways or private roads and driveways of convenience.

Dolson requested the City Attorney to amend the building code to allow construction only on "dedicated and accepted" streets; dedicated to public use, inspected, and accepted by the City for regular maintenance.

Neighborhood Groups are discussing additional legislation to "tighten up" Public Works' street standards. A team, headed by community lawyers Brian McCaffrey and Bill Corman, are researching the issue.

Legal expenses have been paid by the Mullen-Holladay Group, which raised nearly $500 last summer to continue its legal battles.

Both Dolson and the lawyers have been asked to find out if these new ordinances can apply just to Bernal Heights, or if they must be applied to the entire City.

Las clases de Ciudadania daran principio el 17 de Abril de 9:00 a 11:30 a.m. en el salon Nuevo de St. Kevin's. Tendremos personas para ayudar a aquellas que no hablen el Ingles portavor pongase en contact o con Marea Basurto al telefono 824-0752 para mayor informacion.

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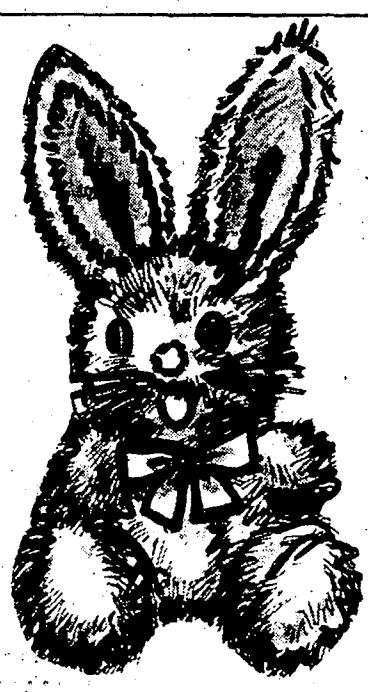

A PLAN FOR ALL SEASONS

Nine months' effort have gone into the East Slope Study scheduled for release the end of this month. It promises to have something for everyone.

Do you have any questions about:

CRIME; know your neighbor & befriend a kid! DEVELOPMENT: Bernal's own design guidelines & building review! LAND USE: land-banking & how much is "vacant"! HOUSING TRENDS: prioritize for locals through community ownership & development. HOUSING STOCK: rehabilitation loans we can live with!

RACIAL MIX: who's moving in & who's moving out? FIRE SAFETY: obey parking requirements & learn fire prevention! TRAFFIC: signs, safety bumps, jitneys, courtesy!

POLICE: Who? SFFD: new equipment? D.P.W.: incorporate Bernal?

PLANNING: "will do it our way". CITY HALL: don't expect much unless you go do it yourself.

FREEEWAYS: 1949 to '79, the impact. CALIFORNIA: time to "mitigate" that impact. STREETS: pave them where safety dictates. SIDEWALKS: rustic clay or urban cement? FOOTPATHS: preserve & "formalize". PEDESTRIANS: protect their routes. DOGS: don't let them threaten, frighten or chase. OPEN SPACE: for beauty or use? PARKS: go do it! ENERGY: Faith in Solar?

NEIGHBORHOODS: Organize! NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS: "don't tread on us!" RESIDENTS: Participate!!

Curious? For the full story, and much more, watch for the announcement of a community meeting to release The Plan; or call the Community Design Center (863-3718) for more information.

Notification of New Construction

by R. J. Dutra

Have you ever been notified by a bulldozer that someone is going to build next door to you?

Bernal Hill has one-quarter of the vacant lots left in the City; making it a very attractive place for those who want to buy, build and sell.

It also has a fiesty population which wants its opinions heard; but too often new developments are approved without residents ever being contacted. A system of neighborhood *notification of new construction* is being developed to guarantee residents will have the opportunity to be heard.

Two Groups, Northwest Bernal and Mullen-Holladay, are trying to obtain notification from the City Departments of all in-coming Bernal permit applications. They then prepare and distribute a flyer to the block scheduled for construction, to the developer, and to a list of some 20 interested organizations and individuals.

The problem is obtaining notification from the Departments. Public Works has offered no cooperation; they have an index of in-coming permits, but it is closed to the public. They did have a public log, but it was canceled "due to 13".

Many developers are coming to the neighborhood groups on their own, and City Planning does notify about most Bernal permits, but the system is not yet 100% effective.

If you wish to be included in the notification system call Northwest Bernal (826-3959) or Mullen-Holladay (863-3718). A contribution to cover production and postage may be solicited to keep this neighborhood effort self-sufficient and independent.

CHARTER CHAT

San Francisco's Charter Commission is gearing up for the massive job of rewriting the document which structures and defines City government. To be completed by August, 1980, this new "constitution" will be submitted to the voters whose lives it will govern. Four Commissioners up-dated the District Nine Community Council on the Charter reform process.

Chairman Wilson Chang outlined the five sections to be reviewed: The structure of government; its legislative powers; and its dealings with Federal and State funding agencies.

Commissioner Pat Jackson reminded the Council that San Franciscans have voted twice for Charter reform, "They want a new Charter." She hopes the Commission can reach a consensus which the voters will accept. Chang said implementation may come in stages.

All the Commissioners agreed the Charter is "out-of-date," "inefficient," too cumbersome and too full of amendments.

Commissioner Jim Haas, a Bernal resident, said "I took on the Charter as my special project," his father was on the Commission which drew up the present Charter in 1931. Haas said he plans to listen "to everyone, from the owners of the Chronicle to the people on my block."

Commissioner Tom Cahill said, "I would like . . . to get in-put from every segment and section of the City." He urged citizens groups "to hammer out" position papers for the Commission. Cahill, Police Chief from 1958 to '70, predicted this may be the last chance for Charter reform "for a long time."

The District Nine Council voted to form its own Charter Reform Committee, to endorse passage of the Commission's budget, and to urge District residents to attend the Charter Meetings on the Second Tuesday and Last Thursday of each month, at 7:00 P.M. in the State Building at Civic Center.

Bingo

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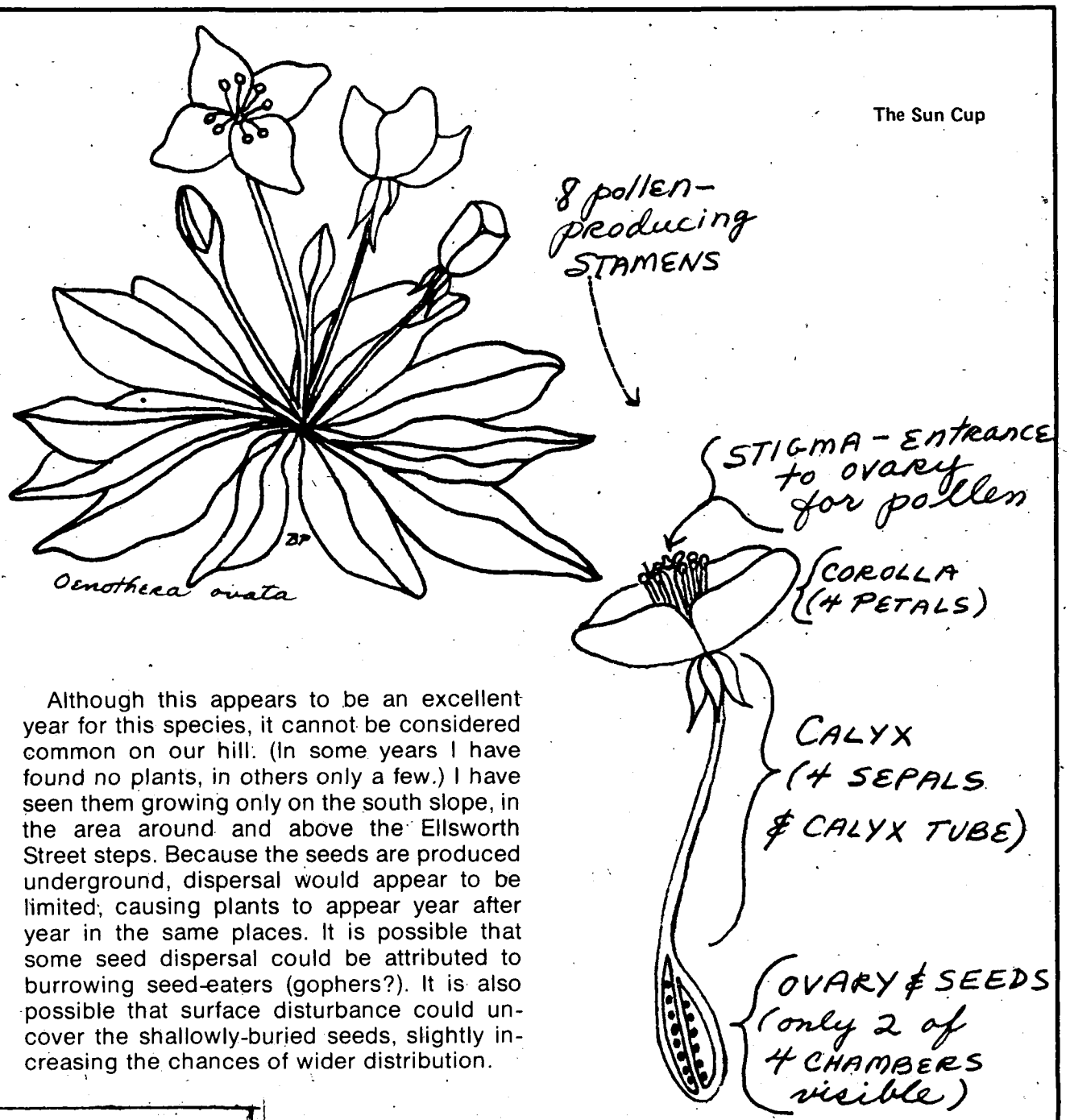
Bernal Heights Natural History

by Barbara M. Pitschel

Spring has, at last, come to San Francisco. Our hill is at its most beautiful, covered with wildflowers. (We are now reaping the rewards of having waited for an unusually late spring: the January, February, March and April flowers are all blooming at the same time, a spectacular sight$)

This month I shall introduce you to my favorite Bernal wildflower, the Sun Cup (Oenothera ovata), whose yellow flowers emerge in clusters (each leaf-axil producing one flower) from a basal rosette of oval (sometimes slightly wavy-edged) leaves. An alternate common name, Golden Eggs, is derived from the egg-like shape and nest-like quality of the leaves. Each flower has four petals (each 1/2" to 3/4" long), four sepals, and eight stamens.

Sun Cups are in the Evening Primrose Family (ONAGRACEAE), members of which are easily recognizable by several fairly distinct characteristics. They close their petals in the absence of sun (evenings or cloudy weather). Their flower parts are always present in fours (and eights: the stamens), including four-celled inferior ovaries. (This term is in no way to be construed as sexist, meaning simply that the seed-producing organ of the plant is below, rather than above, the surface of the flower.) In the case of the Sun Cup this trait is so exaggerated that the seeds are produced just beneath the ground$ The flowers actually have no stems at all. The flowers that look like cups are, in fact, more like champagne glasses.



Although this appears to be an excellent year for this species, it cannot be considered common on our hill. (In some years I have found no plants, in others only a few.) I have seen them growing only on the south slope, in the area around and above the Ellsworth Street steps. Because the seeds are produced underground, dispersal would appear to be limited, causing plants to appear year after year in the same places. It is possible that some seed dispersal could be attributed to burrowing seed-eaters (gophers?). It is also possible that surface disturbance could uncover the shallowly-buried seeds, slightly increasing the chances of wider distribution.

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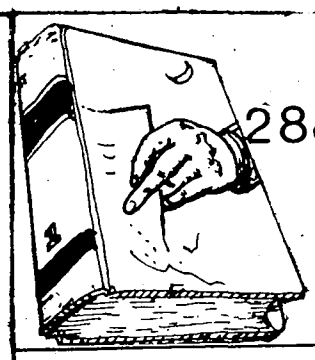

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The Question ? Human

by Joe Lipari

(asked, where all questions of significance are asked in Bernal Heights, at Corland Corners)

HAVE YOU LOST ALL HOPE?

"This question is clearly too metaphysical for Bernal Heights." *Claire Davidson*

"Yes, of course. Years . . . pause . . . and years . . . pause . . . and years ago. But, since I seem to survive quite well, even happily without it, maybe there's hope for me yet."
Carole Lancaster

"Depends on who I'm talking to."
David Salmanowitz

"I hope not!"
Pat Ramseyer

"No. Things are very difficult now for working people, but eventually the people will prevail."
Ralph Beitel

"I think there is more reason for hope today than ever before." *Vicki-the-mailady*

"I have a lot of faith and real experience in the basic positive nature of people. My work with the Community Board Program reinforces my belief in people, average people like myself."
Karen Sullivan

"I never had any hope to lose."
Peter Gerkin

"I have not ever lost all hope. We must not dwell on treating the symptoms; ie., apathy, despair, hate nor indecision. We must deal with the system: Life. I enjoy living. This time I have on this earth is too short to worry or give up."
Frances Knowles

"No. Well, sometimes I do. I think people are becoming more aware of the changes we must make, but it's a question of whether it's already too late. Sometimes I'm afraid we have thrown the environment too far out of balance to ever get it back again." *Cathy Rapp*

"This is a bad day to ask me that question. At 5 o'clock this evening I had more than hope. At 6 pm I had lost it all. Maybe by 6 am there'll be a new dawn. Perhaps things will look brighter." *Gerda Penfold*

"Have I lost all hope? Nope! I wouldn't be asking this question if I had." *Joe Lipari*

BAAAD BULLDOG CONT. FROM P.1

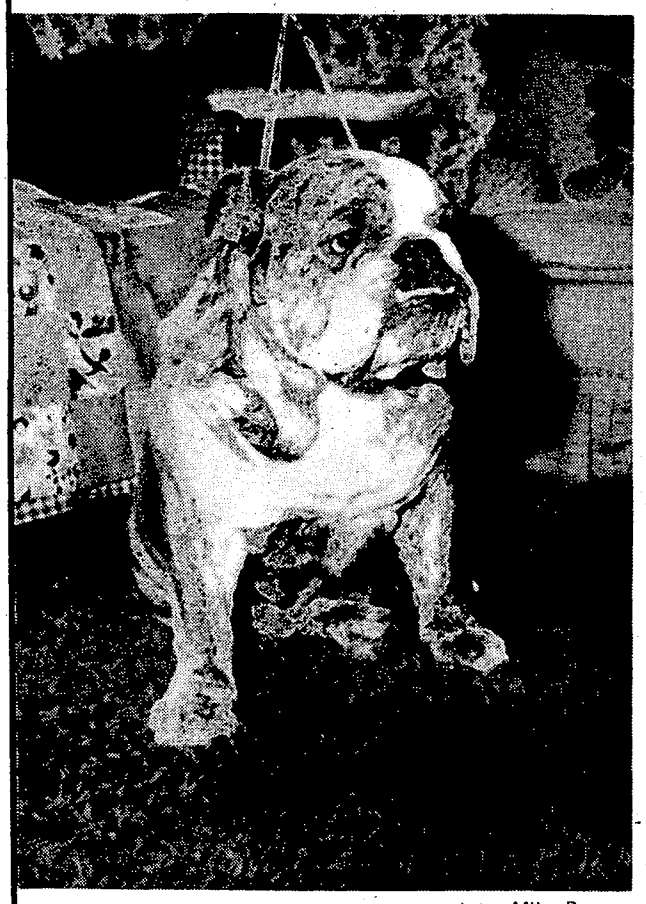

photo Mike Powers

A bulldog who joins in breakfast conversations.

his skin, and peroxide his white stripes. Drapes and slipcovers are changed weekly due to Buster's uncontrollable drooling. And the bill for all the chow consumed by Buster and relatives "Poo" and "Tiny" is $35 a week.

To Jeanne and Charlene, this is perfectly reasonable. After all, Buster, Poo and Tiny are members of the family. Each morning at breakfast Poo sits on a stool at the snack bar. "She doesn't drink coffee," Jeanne said reassuringly. "But she joins in the conversation. We think nothing of it." Buster will cry real tears when yelled at. That's about as rough a treatment as Buster gets, ever since his father John Bull left a big surprise in Mr. Hamer's shoe after a spanking.

The Hamer family is not alone in its devotion to bulldogs. There are at least 100 members in the San Francisco Bulldog Club. Their similar experiences have developed into a shared sensibility, complete with Bulldog Etiquette and Bulldog Slang. "It's considered rude," Jeanne said, "if you get a new litter of pups and don't show them around to the gang." She adds, "And I've had some of these guys chase me half a block to tell me the latest thing their bulldog did."

As Buster implored the group to relieve him of an out-of-reach itch, Charlene got philosophical. "A bulldog person isn't like other people. To cater to a dog like we do," she paused for thought, "You'd have to be crazy."

For real estate service call your neighbors. Real Estate agents, Lyn and Henry Cabrera, 824-3038, 282-8384 (home); 621-8450, 861-1111.

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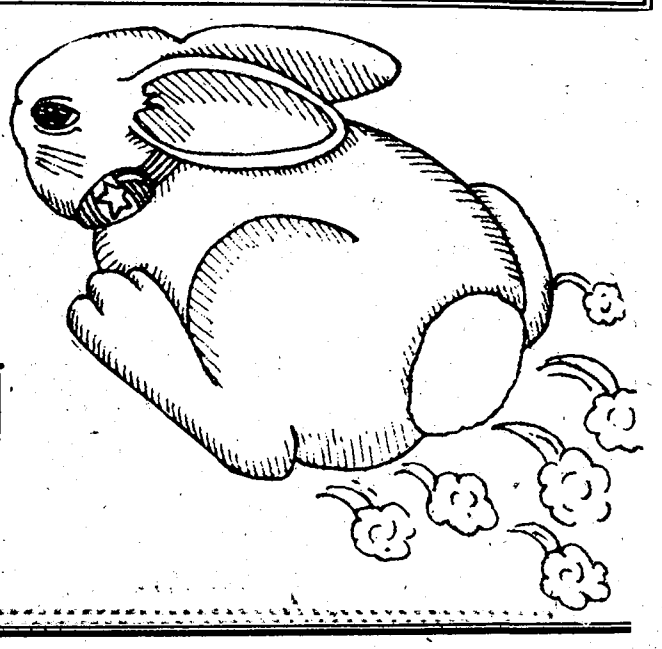

Recipe Corner

Peanut Butter Cookies

by Lil Kruse

I was very fond of my Mother-in-law and her peanut butter cookies. I will share her recipe.

Preheat oven to 350°. Soften 2 cubes butter, add one cup brown sugar, firmly packed, and 1 cup of white sugar, blend together. Add 1 cup peanut butter, 2 eggs and 2 teaspoons baking soda, blend. Gradually add 2-1/2 cups flour and a little salt. Drop by teaspoon onto cookie sheet and pat with fork, moistened in water.

Bake 12 to 15 minutes or until lightly gold and crisp.

Eat and enjoy.

BHCF Buys House

(Continued from Page 1)

housing. In addition to possibly expanding its present program to other parts of the Hill, the BHCF is investigating the feasibility of a voluntary rehabilitation program at low interest rates for Bernal owner-occupants. The first of a number of meetings to introduce neighbors to community development and discuss a proposal for next year will be held on Monday, April 16th, at 7:30, at 150 Elsie St. For more information, call 826-3959 or 285-3425.

BJ Puzzle

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A	R	R	O	W	E	L	F	E	S	J	C	T	E	I
C	O	T	T	G	L	O	B	L	I	G	S	F	N	C
I	T	A	E	L	I	L	L	S	R	E	T	R	A	C
R	O	B	C	A	A	A	I	F	I	W	N	O	A	LA
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L	W	K	V	H	A	V	A	L	I	K	C	J	R	A
F	Y	T	U	A	E	B	F	O	E	S	U	O	H	S

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run all directions—forward, backwards, up, down, diagonally. (Look for Three gals named Lill, Lynn, and Elsie.) Sorry Farmer's Market, but we ran out of room.

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FIRES

The wild grasses are seeding and will soon begin to dry creating the yearly fire hazard. Residents are encouraged to clear these grasses from fences, walls, and around trees and shrubs.

PHOTOS

From April 2 to 30, the Bernal Heights Library will house an extraordinary exhibit of photographs from Guam, by Roy Lizama; the exhibit is entitled *The Elders*—the joys and pains of growing old. The photographer, a resident of Bernal Heights, has participated in the past Bernal Artists Shows at the Library and will speak about his exhibit on April 11 at 7:15 p.m.

On Wednesday, May 2, Elfriede Preger will speak on "The Treasures of Tutankhamun" at the Library at 7:00 p.m. She will also speak about "The Splendor of Dresden," with slides, on April 18 at 7:00 p.m.

The Library continues preschool story hours (for ages 3-5) on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.

FESTIVAL

St. Kevin's Church presents its Annual 3-Day Festival the weekend of May 18, 19, 20 in the Parish Hall, Cortland Avenue and Ellsworth. Doors open Friday and Saturday evenings at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday afternoon at 1:30 pm.

Decorated on the theme of "A Country Fair," the Festival will feature games, prizes, ethnic dinners and entertainment for all ages.

The proceeds of the Festival benefit St. Kevin's *Summer of Love* recreational program which serves children and youth of all beliefs.

To inaugurate the Annual Festival, the Liturgical Team of St. Kevin's will offer an Evening of Art and Religion on Saturday, May 12 at 7:30 pm in the Church. Included in the program will be dance, choral music, dramatic readings, a children's orchestra and an exhibit of religious art. Everyone is welcome. Admission is free.

EX EDITOR

The Southeast Mental Health Center Community Advisory Board is pleased to announce that two Bernal Heights residents have become officers for 1979. Mr. Greg Catani, former editor of the BERNAL JOURNAL and Ms. Myrtle Walker, long-time community activist, will serve as Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Catani stated: "Despite possible program cutbacks . . . I expect 1979 to be a good year for mental health services in the southeast district. Our goal is to make every service as responsive to the needs of the people as possible."

SENIORS

Seniors at St. Kevins have a new program providing medical checkups, free of charge, by appointment. Call Ann Hickey at St. Kevins, 648-5751.

HEALTH

High Blood Pressure or Hypertension Screening Program which began in March is available for residents age 50 and above at the E.O.C. office on 434 Cortland Avenue. It is held every 1st and 3rd Monday of each month from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. *by appointment only.*

This program came into existence at the request of seniors in the Bernal Heights community. The purpose of the program is to educate and to identify hypertension early and to refer for medical care.

This service is being provided by District Health Center No. 3's public health nurses who work in the Bernal Heights area. If you are interested, please call 285-8915 for an appointment.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Every Monday morning at 9:30, the Bernal Breakfast Club, neighbors from around the hill, meet at Cortland Corners Cafe (at the corner of Cortland and Bocana). There are guest speakers, updates on Vista work, and other projects in the neighborhood. All neighbors are welcome to come.

O.C.D.

Monday, April 16th at 7:30 P.M. a Community Development Orientation Workshop will be held at 150 Elsie St. The workshop will focus on Bernal Heights programs presently funded by Community Development, plans for a hillwide 1979-80 funding request, lot acquisition for the development of low and moderate priced housing, low interest home rehabilitation loans, and a Bernal community development corporation to administer these funded programs.

REHAB

Antioch College West students will be doing a survey in the Mullen-Holladay area to determine rehabilitation needs, community desire and potential programs and their qualifications. The survey is being done in cooperation with the neighborhood groups. For more information call Bob Dutra (863-3718) or David McNally (647-7693).

CRISIS

San Franciscans for Affordable Housing, a coalition of neighborhood and labor organizations, invites District 9 renters and homeowners to attend a community hearing on San Francisco's housing crisis, Thursday, May 10, 7 PM, at St. Mary's Park Recreation Center. For more information, please call SFAH at 775-6931.

BHA President's Corner

by Rex Coultas

WHAT I HAVE SEEN

When I first started working on the *Bernal Journal* several years ago, it was still considered a newsletter of the Bernal Heights Association (BHA). Last year before I became president of the BHA, the editors of the *Bernal Journal* decided unilaterally to dissolve this relationship and make the Bernal Journal an independent newspaper. I voted against this decision, but to no avail. It was my feeling that, without a voice, the BHA would die. Historically the *Bernal Journal* has been a part of the BHA, the By-Laws of the association provide for such a newspaper to be called "The Bernal Journal," and the association has at various times provided financial support for running the paper as well. I was also concerned that provisions should be made for he orderly, democratic transfer of authority from one editorship to another, so that the newspaper would continue to truly be a "forum of the community" and not fall prey to exploitation by private interest groups for profit or political ambition.

WHAT IS NOW

Unfortunately such provisions do not now exist under the current setup, nor are any planned for the future as far as I know.

When I accepted the job of president of the BHA, my two concerns were (1) to see the BHA continue and not go inactive, as no one else was willing at that time to take the job (so far we have been successful in this endeavor), and (2) to try to keep the *Bernal Journal* and the Bernal Heights Association together so that collectively they might continue making an important contribution to the community (in this endeavor we have not been so successful).

WHAT WILL BE HEREAFTER?

It will soon be time for election of new officers for the BHA. Will anyone step forward and volunteer for the jobs, or will the organization flounder? We have been operating with a skeleton crew this year, just a president and a treasurer, as no one else would volunteer for the other jobs.

What is the direction the community is taking? Will there be a continuing proliferation of special interest groups, block clubs, SAFE, Community Boards, etc., splintering up the potential cohesiveness of the neighborhood, or shall the members of the community support a strong, broad-spectrum neighborhood association whose town hall function can bring out a mayor or a supervisor and be heard with respect in City Hall?

These questions need to be answered with action, not words. That watchword of our Republic is enough already: "United we stand, divided we fall$"

If you have not yet paid your dues or wish to become a member of the BHA, please use the coupon below. Your membership also entitles you to one year's free subscription to the *Bernal Journal*. Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 16, 1979, in the new community meeting room at the Bernal Branch of the Public Library, 500 Cortland Ave. at 7:30 p.m. If you have any agenda items, please call Rex at 648-5783. Hope you can come and we look forward to seeing you there

Editor's Note: The *Bernal Journal* has for many years been legally a part of the Bernal Fund, a non-profit corporation. News on all community organizations, individuals and events related to the Bernal Heights community is published. Except for the ad manager, all editors and contributors are unpaid. Editorship has been transferred in an "orderly and democratic manner" and no special groups have been profited in their pocketbooks or political ambitions. Mr. Coultas, however, was *not* elected an editor.

BHA Members

YES I WANT TO JOIN THE B.H.A.
I pledge to try to better my neighborhood in any way I can. Here is my ☐ $2 ☐ $_____ or ☐ Work/Barter Pledge in place of money.

Send to:
Jerry Schwartz
77 Peralta Ave
SF, CA 94110

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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SPECIAL INTEREST? _____

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Michael D. Sargent

Real Estate Broker

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Michael Sargent is a graduate of the Harvard Business School and New York University. Having had two years' experience as a broker in San Francisco, Michael Sargent is well-qualified to handle nearly any real estate transaction. Mike and his company are heavily committed to continuing education in concert with the wishes of the Real Estate Commissioner.

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Michael D. Sargent

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